

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more one-sided viewpoints and less of what we need for our democracy. One-sided programs, like "Stolen Honor", do not serve the public interest and are harmful to our democracy. We need to make sure that if stations air programs like "Stolen Honor," they be sure to air a pro-Kerry program like "Going Upriver" shortly after.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve a renewed commitment to respecting and representing all points of view - even viewpoints that differ from those of the individuals making programming decisions. The premise that every voice matters is what makes our country great. Thank you.